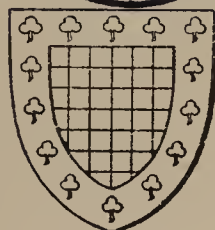


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BOROUGH OF



GRANTHAM

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ANNUAL REPORT

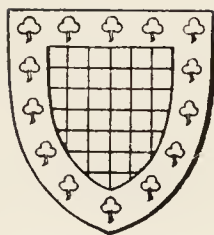
of the Health of the Borough
for the Year

1956

BY THE
Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
Chief Public Health Inspector

BOROUGH OF



GRANTHAM

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BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor E. Smith (Chairman)

Councillor H. Cant (Vice-Chairman)

Alderman B. H. Sindall

Councillor J. Hardaker

Councillor R. C. Moore

Councillor A. L. Ramsden

Councillor J. R. Cook

Councillor W. A. Ogden

Councillor W. O. Heath

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

C. W. SHEARER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

C. TAYLOR, (a), (b), (c), (d)

Additional Public Health Inspector

P. J. ADAMS, (a), (b)

- (a) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health or of Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.
- (b) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
- (c) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.
- (d) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health for Sanitary Science.

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

STATISTICS

Population (Census 1951)	..	..	..	23405
Population (Mid-year estimate)	..	..	..	23740
Area of Borough	..	..	..	3868 acres
Rateable Valuation (1st April, 1956)	..	..	..	£276557
Sum represented by penny rate (year ending 31st March, 1956)	..	..	..	£639 8 5

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	165	170	335
Illegitimate	11	7	18
Birth rate per thousand estimated population			14.9
Average for England and Wales			15.7
STILL BIRTHS	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	3	6	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—
INFANT MORTALITY	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	8	1	9
DEATHS	M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	132	134	266
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population			11.2
Corrected (for age and sex) death rate per 1,000 population			11.6
Average for England and Wales per 1,000 population			11.7
MATERNAL DEATHS			
Deaths from Maternal Causes			0
Maternal mortality per 1,000 total births			0
Average for England and Wales			0.56

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

16 St. Peter's Hill,
Grantham

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Grantham.

Madam and Gentleman,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1956.

The birth rate remained below the national average.

The number of infant deaths was 9 as compared to 14 in 1955 and 8 in 1954. This corresponds to an Infant Mortality Rate of 28.3 (National Average 23.8). There was however a striking difference from the experience of the last two years in that five of the deaths were in infants over a month old, four of these being due to infection (pneumonia and bronchitis).

As for several years past, there were no maternal deaths.

The death rate was lower than in 1955 and close to the national average. The number of deaths from cancer (50) was almost the same as in the last two years. Lung cancer again accounted for 12 deaths. The association between this disease and tobacco smoking is now well established. In view of the immense vested interests involved it is extremely unlikely that any government would ever attempt to introduce prohibition of tobacco, but the time has surely come when (1) a determined attempt should be made to discourage young persons from starting to smoke and (2) smoking should be discouraged in such places as cinemas, theatres, buses and railway carriages. Champions of tobacco argue that non-smokers sometimes get cancer of the lung. Of course, in this country there are no non-smokers, as those who don't use tobacco themselves are constantly forced to breathe the smoke from other people's pipes and cigarettes.

The number of cases of infectious disease notified in 1956 was less than one-tenth of the figure for 1955. This was chiefly due to the absence of measles and a great fall in whooping-cough. We were very fortunate in having no case of poliomyelitis.

One case of food-poisoning was notified. In this case the vehicle of the infection was a pork pie and the organism involved was *Staphylococcus Aureus*. The probable source of the infection was identified and appropriate action taken. An outbreak of gastro-enteritis occurred in one of the town schools, involving 151 pupils

but in spite of detailed investigation no food-poisoning organisms were found. The prevention of food-poisoning, as well as the investigation of outbreaks, is an important part of the work of a Public Health Department, and Local Authorities have been given increased powers and responsibilities by new Regulations issued in 1955.

The intensive Mass Radiography survey promised in 1955 was carried out during February to May 1956, and a summary of the results is included in this Report. The number of persons X-rayed though short of the target, was twice as large as in previous surveys. The total number of new notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was, however, only one more than last year. The incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is now very low, no doubt owing to the fact that only T.T. or pasteurised milk has been sold in the town since 1952.

Four deaths were again caused by home accidents, and the same number by road accidents.

A comprehensive account of the Department's work in the field of housing, food hygiene and other environmental matters, follows in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. This work is still greatly handicapped by shortage of staff.

I have to thank all members of the Council, colleagues in other departments, and all in the Public Health Department, for their continued interest, courtesy, and unfailing help throughout the year.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES W. SHEARER

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS

Notifications received during the year

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	24	1	—
Pneumonia	12	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	16	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Erysipelas	7	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	6	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	—	—
Total	66	7	—

Age Distribution of the Notified Infectious Diseases

	Not known	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	1	4	3	10	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	24
Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	4	4	12
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	2	6	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	4	7
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	2	...	...	...	6
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Food Poisoning	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total	4	1	1	2	7	4	7	12	4	2	4	4	1	5	8	66

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	Deaths during 1956				New cases during 1956			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0— 1 year ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
5—15 years ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years ..	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—
25—35 years ..	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—
35—45 years ..	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
45—55 years ..	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
55—65 years ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Not known ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	1	1	—	—	11	11	2	—

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1956	Male	Female
All causes	132	134
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	8	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	8
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
Diabetes	3	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	13
Coronary disease, angina	16	16
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
Other heart disease	23	44
Other circulatory disease	7	9
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	4	3
Bronchitis	9	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	8
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	2	4
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—

INFANT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES

9

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under one day	1—7 days	1—4 weeks	Total Under 4 weeks	1—3 Months	3—12 Months	Total Under 1 Year
Premature Birth	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
Malformation	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Birth Injuries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia & Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
Enteritis & Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	2	—	2	—	1	3
TOTAL	—	3	1	4	2	3	9

DEATHS FROM CANCER

	Cancer of :						Rate per 1,000 population
	Stomach	Lung, Bronchus	Breast	Uterus	All other sites	Total	
Male	3	8	—	—	19	30	
Female	1	4	4	3	8	20	
Total	4	12	4	3	27	50	2.1

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 — ANNUAL REPORT OF M.O.H.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	25	9	1	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	156	57	1	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	181	66	2	—

Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	1	—	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	—	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including those relating to Outwork) Section 9	2	—	—	2	—
Total ..	5	—	—	5	—

REPORT OF MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY IN
GRANTHAM, 1956

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
X-rayed on Miniature Film	..	..	..	4900	5284
Re-called for Large Film	..	..	..	170	122
Referred to Chest Clinic	..	..	..	30	15
Referred to own Doctor	..	..	..	8	15

Cases of :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis post primary Active..	10	4
Pul. Tub. p.p. Inactive	36	19
Pulmonary Tuberculosis previously known cases	2	3
Pneumokoniosis	—	—
Cardiac Abnormality	3	15
Carcinoma	—	1
Bronchiectosis	2	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Home nursing and domiciliary midwifery is still carried out by the District Nurses stationed at the District Nurses' Home, Castlegate.

HOME HELPS

Help for cases of illness and maternity cases is provided through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 40, Westgate.

GENERAL HOSPITALS

The Grantham General Hospital and the Hillview Hospital, Dysart Road, cater for the needs of the area.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS

Maternity accommodation is provided at the above two hospitals.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS

There being no Isolation Hospital in the immediate neighbourhood, accommodation when required has to be sought in neighbouring areas.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS

Sanatorium treatment for cases requiring it is arranged by the Regional Hospital Board, who are now responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY THE KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL :

Child Welfare :

Six clinics weekly held at the Clinic, 40 Westgate—Dr. in attendance once weekly. Weekly clinic at the Methodist Church Hall, Harrowby Lane, Dr. in attendance thrice a month.

Diphtheria Immunisation :

At the Child Welfare Clinic on Tuesday afternoons. Free immunisation can also be arranged with general practitioners.

School Clinics :

Beaconfield. Minor ailments daily 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. in attendance Tuesday 9.30 a.m. Specialist services by appointment.

Day Nursery :

The Day Nursery, St. Catherine's Road, provides for children of working parents.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL
AUTHORITY :

Tuberculosis :

A weekly session is held by the Chest Physician in the Grantham Hospital Out-Patients' Department, on Monday morning.

Venereal Diseases :

A weekly session is held in the Out-Patients' Department of Grantham Hospital on Wednesdays at 10 a.m., and on Fridays (males only) from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES :

Bacteriological investigations are amply provided for by the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln. All necessary chemical analyses are done by Mr. W. W. Taylor, Public Analyst, Nottingham.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Grantham.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1956. Throughout the whole of the year one additional Public Health Inspector was available to give me technical assistance and the staff position was therefore better than during the previous year, nevertheless, it was surprising that a decision should be taken to reduce the number of additional Inspectors from two to one at a time when legislation had increased and intensified the duties imposed on the department; this meant of course that certain branches of the work received little or no attention.

In the main our efforts were concentrated on slum clearance and enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, both of which subjects are enlarged upon later in this report. One should record that an important piece of legislation viz:- The Clean Air Act 1956, was placed on the statute book, it is an Act designed to make provision for abating the pollution of the air and has been heralded as the start of the smokeless era if local authorities administer it energetically.

Statistics indicating the extent of work carried out are given below in the customary form. I take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the support and help received from members of the Council, the staff and other colleagues.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The number of houses remaining on the conservancy system is still sixteen, but fifteen of these were included in Clearance Areas declared under the Housing Act, 1936 and will ultimately be demolished, when the tenants are re-housed. The cost of removal of night soil was £108 per annum.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Once again new sewer construction took place in areas where housing development was in progress; from information supplied by the Borough Surveyor 3,002 feet of foul sewer was laid on Council estates and the surface water sewer in Harlaxton Road was extended for a distance of 510 feet; as in previous years alterations or reconstruction of drainage systems to existing premises were supervised by the Health Department staff.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The refuse collection service operated smoothly throughout the year; there were no labour shortages and in spite of additional work due to the continuing increase in the number of houses to be serviced it was not found necessary to increase the number of vehicles or personnel in order to maintain a weekly collection of refuse.

Filling in of the Belton Lane Tip by controlled tipping was

The town water supply was sampled on twenty-eight occasions and found to be consistently of satisfactory bacterial quality. Samples submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical and bacteriological examination were reported upon as follows:—

Sample No.	11				12				22			
Supplied From:	Towns Main				Towns Main				Shallow Well			
ANALYSIS—Per millions parts:												
Chemical												
Total Solids dried at 180 °C	...	...	...	...	330.00	350.00	620.00	...	...	...	...	...
Suspended Matter	...	...	...	...	Absent	Absent	Absent	...	...	...	...	...
Chlorides as chlorine	...	...	...	...	28.40	28.40	35.50	...	...	...	...	...
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	...	...	...	...	4.75	4.25	2.87	...	...	...	...	...
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	...	...	...	...	Absent	Absent	0.016	...	...	...	...	...
Free and saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.216	0.092	0.068	...	...	...	...	...
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	157.50	160.00	337.50	...	...	...	...	...
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	112.50	120.00	152.50	...	...	...	...	...
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.080	0.028	0.060	...	...	...	...	...
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 °F. from N/80 KMnO4	...	...	...	...	0.28	0.24	0.84	...	...	...	...	...
pH Value ...	...	...	...	...	7.50	7.50	7.00	...	...	...	...	...
Appearance	...	...	...	...	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright	...	...	...	...	...
Odour	...	...	...	...	None	None	None	...	...	...	...	...
Taste and Colour	...	...	...	...	Normal	Normal	Normal	...	...	...	...	...
Heavy Metals	...	...	...	...	Absent	Absent	Absent	...	...	...	...	...
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.125	0.10	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bacteriological												
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 °C. in 72 hrs.	...	...	...	...	0	0	204	...	...	...	...	...
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 °C. in 24 hrs.	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 °C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	...	1	0	96	...	...	...	...	...
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37 °C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 °C. in 48 hrs.	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	...	...	...	...	...
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	...	...	...	...	Absent in 100 mls.	Absent in 100 mls.	Absent in 100 mls.	...	...	...	...	...

OPINION—SAMPLE NOS. 11 and 12

At the time of sampling both waters were of suitable bacterial and chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy premises.

OPINION—SAMPLE NO. 22

1. At the time of sampling this water was of suitable bacterial quality for human consumption and domestic use.
2. The values for nitrite nitrogen, ammonias and oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 4 hours arouse suspicion of this water supply and it is suggested that it must not be regarded as completely safe.
3. This water is extremely hard.

In view of the report on Sample● No. 22, the well was closed and the premises provided with a supply from the towns main.

completed by December 1956, and the owner of this site kindly agreed to the use of marshy land at the south side of Londonthorpe Mill being used for refuse disposal; it is anticipated that filling in and reclamation of this land will take almost three years. A sandpit at Sudbrook was acquired for refuse disposal and although it is eight miles distant it will eventually meet the needs of the town for several years; this has been a problem exercising the attention of the Health Committee for some considerable time.

Recovery of salvage continued although sales of waste paper were restricted by the paper mills and your own contractor notified during one period of the year that he could only accept a limited intake. In consequence the income given below may be considered reasonably satisfactory.

	T	C	Q	£	s.	d.
Mixed Waste Paper and						
Cardboard	247	18	0	1,930	17	7
Rags		12	2	15	0	0
Scrap Iron and Tins ..	3	15	2½	19	15	9
				£1,965	13	4

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

From time to time caravans were parked on various vacant plots of land in the town and until there is a recognised and authorised site available to which they could be directed there seems no satisfactory method of dealing with this problem.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Following the retirement of your Rodent Officer due to ill health and the appointment of his successor in March it was again possible to organise the work of rodent destruction and this extremely useful service was resumed on a satisfactory basis and with good results.

A summary of the work done is given below in tabulated form.

	Council property	Dwelling property	Business property	Agri- cultural property	Total
No. of properties surveyed	14	144	38	4	200
No. found to be infested with rats or mice ...	14	129	38	4	185
No. treated for rats or mice	14	129	38	4	185
No. of visits made for the purpose of treating properties	44	731	271	4	1050

Two maintenance treatments of the town sewers were undertaken with the following results :—

From 16.4.56 to 20.4.56 23.4.56 to 27.4.56			From 24.9.56 to 28.9.56 1.10.56 to 5.10.56		
No. of manholes pre-baited	..	403	No. of manholes pre-baited	..	254
No. found to be rat infested	..	120	No. found to be rat infested	..	127
No. of pre-baits laid	..	513	No. of pre-baits laid	..	377
No. of manholes poison baited		120	No. of manholes poison baited		127

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Only on two occasions was it found necessary to draw attention to smoke nuisances arising from factory chimneys, but with the staff available time does not permit of routine smoke observations being made. I have already referred to the Clean Air Act 1956 and here mention may be made of one important provision of the Act viz., the power given to local authorities to make Orders subject to confirmation by the Minister declaring the whole or any part of their districts as a smoke control area; this aims at restricting atmospheric pollution from domestic premises, offices, etc., as well as from industrial premises, and it is not generally realised that smoke from the former premises is a most undesirable form of pollutant. There are various parts of Grantham which could in my opinion be very readily made smoke control areas; I regret to record that the most noticeable pollution which occurs in this borough arises from the railway.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

As in the previous year no organised inspection of factories was carried out, but visits were made on complaint or whenever time permitted. No inspections were made under Section 34 although there are a few factories in respect of which no certificates have been issued in connection with means of escape in case of fire.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

No samples of rag flock were submitted for analysis; five premises are registered under the Act.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Due to pressure of other work only four visits were made under Section 38 to check the sanitary and other welfare arrangements in shops where assistants are employed.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA **NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE** **DURING 1956**

Complaints reported to the Public Health Department ..	499
Inspection of dwellings where nuisances were found ..	314
Inspection of other premises where nuisances were found ..	25
Inspection of premises upon complaint where no nuisances were found	70
Re-visits to properties under notice or work in progress ..	776
Inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1936)	86
Re-inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1936).. .. .	343
Visits in connection with overcrowding	11
Houses measured up for 'Permitted Numbers'	20
Visits in connection with Improvements Grants	52
Visits in connection with House Survey	238
Visits in connection with Drainage of premises	199
New Drains Tested	89
Old Drains Tested	9
Visits to Bakehouses	51
„ „ dairies and milk shops	12
„ „ ice-cream premises	21
„ „ miscellaneous foodstores and food preparing rooms	314
„ „ factories (with mechanical power)	57
„ „ factories (with no mechanical power)	9
„ „ factories (re means of fire escape)	3
„ „ outworkers' premises	—
„ „ fried fish shops	47
„ „ markets, shops and stalls	287
„ „ offensive trade premises	5
„ „ dwelling vans	41
„ „ verminous premises	3
„ „ rat infested lands and premises	165
„ „ cafes and cafe kitchens	67
„ „ cinemas and places of public entertainment	—
„ „ shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)	4
„ „ slaughterhouses	889
„ „ meat purveyors and cooked food for 'making-up' premises	182
Visits in connection with smoke abatement	17
„ „ „ „ refuse collection and disposal	173
„ „ „ „ salvage collection and disposal	49
„ „ „ „ infectious disease and suspected food poisoning	27
Inspection of licensed premises	117
Number of interviews with builders or owners	264
„ „ samples of water taken for analysis	28
„ „ informal notices served	238
„ „ statutory notices served	35

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

(a) THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Milk Distributors:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1956	..	..	15
Number on Register at 31st December, 1956	..	..	17

Dairy Premises:

Number on Register at 1st January, 1956	..	..	2
Number on Register at 31st December, 1956	..	..	2

Forty-two samples of Ungraded Milk were taken from bulk supplies on arrival at the Local Pasteurisation Establishment from farms outside the Borough. The reports given below include a number of repeat samples taken from the same producers whose supplies appeared to give consistently poor results. Details were forwarded to the County Milk Regulations Officer for his investigation.

No. of samples not decolour- ising methylene blue in 4½ hours	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 4 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 2 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in less than 1 hour.
9	9	13	11

(b) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk sold from shops	..	..	14
--	----	----	----

Number of Supplementary Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk retailed in the town by an outside firm	..	..	1
---	----	----	---

No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk taken	..	..	28
--	----	----	----

No. found to be satisfactory	..	..	28
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(c) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Use of the Special Designation 'Tuberculin Tested'.

No. of Dealers' Licences issued	..	..	4
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No. of Supplementary Licences issued	..	..	1
--	----	----	---

No. of samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	23
--	----	----	----

No. found to be satisfactory	..	..	22
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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

(a) SAMPLES OF FOOD

I am indebted to Mr. E. T. Hawley, Chief Weights & Measures

Inspector to the County Council for supplying the under-mentioned details of samples taken in the Borough during 1956.

Almonds (Ground)	1
Bismuthated magnesia tablets ..	1
Butter	3
Cheese and cheese spreads ..	6
Cream (fresh, double)	4
„ (sterilised)	1
Coffee and chicory essence ..	1
Confectionery	1
Disprin	1
Fish cakes	1
„ paste	1
Glacé Cherries	1
Honey	1
Ice Cream	4
Margarine	1
Marzipan	2
Meat Paste	5
Milk	15
Milk Shakes	2
Mixed nuts (ground)	1
Palm Kernel oil	1
Pork brawn	1
„ pie	1
„ sausage	1
Rennet (essence)	1
Rice	1
Soft drinks	7
Table jelly	1
Tinned meat	3
Tomato ketchup	1
Vinegar (cyder)	1
„ (malt)	1
TOTAL	73

His comments indicate that it was not necessary to take legal action in respect of any of the samples taken and he further states:—

“As I have said before, the quality of foodstuffs sold in Grantham tends to be above average. There is no great demand for the cheapest commodities and only rarely do itinerant vendors visiting Grantham Market offer goods of dubious quality. Grantham shopkeepers show a willingness to co-operate in the administration of Food & Drugs legislation for the reason, no doubt, that they regard it as complementary to the locally-administered hygiene legislation and there is no doubt that this dual activity has had a beneficial effect during the past year.”

(b) MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM

	Manu- facture and Sale of Ice Cream	Sale of Loose Ice Cream	Sale of Pre-Packed Ice Cream
Premises registered 1st Jan. 1956	3	26	49
Premises registered during the year	—	—	6
Registrations cancelled due to cessation of business ...	—	—	—
Premises registered 31st Dec. 1956	3	26	55

Result of Bacteriological Samples (Methylene Blue Test)

Number classified in Grade 1 .. 57

Number classified in Grade 2 .. 3

Number classified in Grade 3 .. 1

Total number of samples taken 61

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

With the introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, which took effect fully on the 1st July, 1956, it became necessary to concentrate on implementing the various new legal requirements. Therefore, special emphasis was laid on visiting all types of food premises and including re-visits a total of 1,098 inspections were made including 117 licensed premises. In addition many food handlers were interviewed and notified of their legal obligations as to personal cleanliness whilst handling food.

102 notices of contravention of the Food Hygiene Regulations were served on owners or occupiers and the majority of these had been complied with by the end of the year. Work was also carried out at 14 premises without the service of notices.

In 11 cases sinks and/or an adequate supply of hot water were provided at licensed premises where particular attention was drawn to the necessity for using an effective sterilizing agent when washing glasses.

Swabbing of café utensils was recommenced and the results apart from being of interest to the proprietors showed the effectiveness or otherwise of cleansing methods.

Contraventions found included the following:—

Number of food premises without wash-hand basins ..	47
Number of food premises without hot water supply.. ..	59
Number of food premises without clothing cupboard or locker accommodation	15
Number of food premises without sink for washing food and equipment	12
Number of food premises not provided with First Aid Materials	18
Number of food premises requiring cleansing of walls and ceilings	13
Number of food premises found with defective wall and ceiling plaster	6
Number of food premises found without soap, nail brushes and clean towels	10
Number of food premises found with defective floors ..	1
Number of food premises with defective ventilation.. ..	1

The application of the Regulations to mobile food vehicles received particular attention and washing facilities were supplied in certain cases. Warning was given regarding smoking and the handling of open food with unclean hands.

Consideration was given to the effect of the Regulations on the sale of food in the open market on Saturdays. Following a joint meeting of the Chairman of the responsible Committees a recommendation was approved by the Council.

(a) That the Health Committee be asked to proceed with the provision of a public convenience in the market place, in which should be made available suitable and adequate free wash-hand facilities for the use of stallholders.

(b) That such provision would not necessarily exempt certain food trades from being requested to provide their own facilities to comply with Article 28 of the Food Hygiene Regulations, should the Council consider it desirable.

The number of various types of food premises are given below:

Number of premises registered for the preparation of sausage and meat products	34
Number of bakehouses	22
Number of fish frying premises.. .. .	15
Number of wet fish premises	6
Number of cafés and snack bars	13
Number of factory canteens and other catering premises ..	14
Number of Grocery and miscellaneous stores	100
Number of licensed premises	64

Improvements effected during 1956 are tabulated below :—

Improvements Effected	Meat Purveyors and cooked meat premises	Bakehouses	Fish Frying Premises	Cafes, Factory Canteens and Hotels	Other Food Shops and Stores	Licensed Premises	Total
Cleansed and Re- decorated	4	3	—	3	4	5	19
Sink and/or Hand Basin and/or Hot Water Supply provided ...	14	15	3	10	34	11	87
Provision of Locker Accommodation ...	1	2	—	—	3	—	6
Provision of First Aid Kit	2	2	2	—	10	1	17
Improved Sanitary Accommodation ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Otherwise Hygienically Improved	3	7	2	7	6	—	25

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

A public abattoir and a small private slaughterhouse was available for the use of the local butchers, but it is doubtful whether 50% of the meat sold in the town was from locally slaughtered livestock, several butchers preferring to buy “off the hooks”.

Because he found it an uneconomic proposition the Slaughtering Contractor terminated his contract at the Public Abattoir at the end of June 1956, and there was no response to an advertisement for another Contractor; following a meeting with the Grantham and District Butchers' Association the Council decided to provide an abattoir attendant, and request the butchers to make satisfactory arrangements for slaughtering their own livestock within authorised hours. This scheme came into operation on the 1st July 1956, and for a period of some weeks the amount of slaughtering done was on an extremely small scale; eventually the butchers engaged one full time slaughterman, but although there was an increase in the amount of livestock slaughtered the public abattoir at the end of the year was showing a financial loss.

The quality of meat inspected was very good and it has become noticeable in the last year or so that the incidence of tuberculosis in cattle and pigs is declining; it is interesting to note that of the cattle inspected 1.9% was found to be affected with cysticercus bovis.

MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle (ex. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Kid Goats
Number killed	703	84	53	3,220	2,998	1
Number inspected	703	84	53	3,220	2,998	1

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole Carcasses condemned ..	—	—	2	8	7	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	165	28	—	33	165	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	23.49	33.33	3.77	1.27	5.73	—

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

Whole Carcasses condemned ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	52	24	—	—	83	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.68	28.57	—	—	2.76	—

CYSTICERCOSIS

Carcase of which some part or organ was affected	15	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	15	—	—	—	—	—
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

The entire carcasses and organs of the following animals were condemned for the reasons stated:—

2 Beast	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 Sheep	Emaciation
1 Sheep	Fractured leg and Emaciation
1 Sheep	Moribund and Ill-bled
1 Sheep	Septic Pneumonia
1 Sheep	Severe Bruising and Injury
1 Sheep	Moribund
1 Sheep	Oedematous

1 Sheep	..	..	..	Bad Setting
1 Pig	..	..	..	Erysipelas
2 Pigs	..	..	..	Fevered
1 Pig	..	..	..	Peritonitis
1 Sow	..	..	..	Septic Metritis
1 Sow	..	..	..	Abscess and Emaciation
1 Boar	..	..	..	Decomposition
2 Calves	..	..	..	Immaturity

The total weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human consumption was 4 tons 7 cwt. 25½lbs. of which 2 tons 3 cwt 3 qrs. 24 lbs. was affected with Tuberculosis.

As in previous years, quantities of miscellaneous food commodities were condemned as being unfit for human consumption, including:—

Canned Foods	..	..	..	..	881
Miscellaneous preserved food products					8
Cooked Ham	..	..	..	..	4 lbs. 4 oz.
Bacon	..	..	..	..	74 lbs.
Sausage	..	..	..	..	45 lbs. 12 oz.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	72 lbs.
Cooked Meats	..	..	..	..	2 lbs.
Pork Pies	..	..	..	..	3½
Butter	..	..	..	..	2 lb. 8 oz.
Orange Squash	..	..	..	..	1 bottle
Shreddies	..	..	..	..	3 packets
Processed Peas	..	..	..	..	1 packet
Soup	..	..	..	..	32 packets
Fine Oats	..	..	..	..	2 lbs.
Salami	..	..	..	..	12 lbs. 8 oz.
Potato Crisps	..	..	..	..	10 packets

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the Register at 31st December, 1956, was 6.

HOUSING STATISTICS

In my previous annual report comment was made upon the programme of slum clearance which had been approved by the Council and which was to be carried out over a period of five years. During the past year a considerable amount of work was done in putting this programme into effect and six Clearance Orders comprising 74 houses were confirmed by the Ministry and in addition 16 houses were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. Details of the properties dealt with are given below:—

HOUSING ACT, 1936—SECTION 25

<i>Clearance Order Number</i>	<i>Confirmed by The Ministry</i>	<i>Addresses</i>
25	15-10-56	14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 Brewery Hill
26	15-10-56	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 Artichoke Yard
27	15-10-56	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Union Street
28	15-10-56	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 Trigg's Yard
29	15-10-56	53 and 54 Castlegate
30	22-11-56	9, 10 and 11 and 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 Rycroft Street and 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59 and 60 Brewery Hill.

HOUSING ACT, 1936—SECTION 11

<i>Date of Demolition Order</i>	<i>Date of Undertaking</i>	<i>Addresses</i>
1- 2-56		56 and 57 Welby Street
11-10-56		11 New Street
	11-10-56	
	(Closing Order)	18 Manthorpe Road
	9-11-56	44 and 45 Wharf Road
9-11-56		23, 24 and 25 Swinegate
9-11-56		1A and 2A Richmond Terrace
11-12-56		42, 43, 44, 45 and 46 Inner Street.

At the end of the year 12 families had been re-housed from condemned houses, and this figure of course will increase considerably as new houses become available.

Other statistics relating to housing which may be of interest are as follows:—

Number of new houses built by the Council	150
Number of new houses built by private enterprise ..	131
Number of houses visited upon complaint of over- crowding	11
Number of houses found to be over-crowded ..	6
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved by the Council during the year	3

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. TAYLOR

